

### **U.S. Department of Justice**

Executive Office for Immigration Review Office of the Director 5107 Leesburg Pike, Suite 2600 Falls Church, Virginia 22041

**FACT SHEET** 

**Contact:** Public Affairs Office

(703) 305-0289 Fax: (703) 605-0365

**Internet:** www.usdoj.gov/eoir

October 2003 (Revised)

#### **BOARD OF IMMIGRATION APPEALS**

The Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA or the Board) is the highest administrative body for interpreting and applying immigration laws. The Board's principal mission is to ensure that the immigration laws receive fair and uniform application. The Board is composed of 11 Board Members, including the Chairman and Vice Chairman. The Board reviews case decisions of the Immigration Judges that have been appealed by one of the parties to the case. The Board is divided into panels, which review incoming cases and adjudicate the appeals as quickly as possible. Board decisions designated for publication are printed in bound volumes entitled *Administrative Decisions Under Immigration and Nationality Laws of the United States*.

### **♦** Biographical Information on Board Members

#### Lori Scialabba, Chairman

Lori Scialabba was named Acting Chairman on April 9, 2001, and served in that capacity until her appointment as Chairman effective August 25, 2002. She was appointed to the Board in March 1998, and was appointed Vice Chairman in June 1999. She received her undergraduate degree in 1982 from the University of Maryland, and her Juris Doctorate in 1985 from Memphis State University. Ms. Scialabba served as acting General Counsel from December 1997 to March 1998, and deputy general counsel for the former Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) in Washington, DC, from April 1994 to December 1997. From 1991 to 1994, she served as associate general counsel, Civil Litigation Section, INS. Ms. Scialabba worked as a trial attorney with the Department of Justice's Civil Division from 1989 to 1991. From 1986 to 1989, she served as assistant general counsel, INS. Ms. Scialabba began her career with the Department of Justice in October 1985 through the Attorney General's Honor Program and served as a trial attorney for INS in Chicago, Illinois. She is a member of the Illinois State Bar, and is admitted to practice in numerous circuit courts and the U.S. Supreme Court.

## David B. Holmes, Acting Vice-Chairman

David B. Holmes was appointed as a Board Member in June 1995. He was appointed Acting Vice-Chairman on January 27, 2003. Mr. Holmes received his B.A. from Middlebury College in 1970, and received his Juris Doctorate in 1973, graduating with honors, from the National Law Center, George Washington University. He joined the Board as an attorney-advisor in August 1977, and served for 14 years as the Board's chief attorney examiner from July 1981 until his appointment as Board Member. Prior to joining the Board, Mr. Holmes served on active duty as a captain in the U.S. Army from 1974 to 1977. He is a member of both the District of Columbia and Virginia Bars.

#### Patricia A. Cole

Patricia Cole was appointed as a Board Member in July 1995. Ms. Cole received her B.S. from Wilson College, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania in 1971, and her Juris Doctorate from the University of Maryland in 1981. Prior to her appointment, she was a senior policy analyst at the U.S. Commission on Former Immigration Reform in Washington, DC. On detail from the former Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), she assisted the Commission in planning and research activities related to the review and evaluation of the Immigration Act of 1990 and alternatives on immigration policy issues. Her former legal positions were with the INS in Washington, DC, and included appellate counsel, associate general counsel for the general law section, legislative counsel, and assistant general counsel. She also was a trial attorney for the Litigation and Legal Advice Staff in Houston, Texas. She has lectured and participated in numerous seminars and immigration conferences. Ms. Cole is the recipient of several awards including the Attorney General's John Marshall Award for preparation and handling of legislation, the INS General Counsel's Attorney of the Year Award, and the INS Commissioner's Superior Accomplishment Award.

# Lauri S. Filppu

Lauri Steven Filppu became a Board Member in July 1995. Mr. Filppu obtained his undergraduate degree in 1969, and his Juris Doctorate in 1973, both from the State University of New York at Buffalo, where he graduated *cum laude* from law school and served as an editor of the Buffalo Law Review. Prior to his appointment to the Board, Mr. Filppu was a deputy director in the Justice Department's Office of Immigration Litigation (OIL). He spent a total of 19 years between OIL and the Criminal Division representing Government agencies in Federal court in civil immigration litigation. He started his Government career in 1973 as a staff attorney with the Board. Among the honors he has received at the Justice Department are the Attorney General's Distinguished Service Award in 1994, and the John Marshall Award in 1987. He is a member of the New York Bar.

#### **Edward R. Grant**

Edward R. Grant was appointed to the Board in January 1998. He received his undergraduate degree in 1979 from Georgetown University, and his Juris Doctorate in 1982 from Northwestern University School of Law. Prior to joining the Board, Mr. Grant served as counsel to the Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims in the U.S. House of Representatives from February 1995 to January 1998. From 1992 until he joined the Subcommittee, he was employed by the former Immigration and Naturalization Service in Washington, DC, where he served as a deputy associate general counsel, Refugee and Asylum Law Division, and as legislative counsel. Mr. Grant was associated with the Chicago, Illinois, law firm of Hinshaw & Culbertson from 1987 through 1990, and with the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, firm of Drinker Biddle & Reath from 1982 to 1984. From 1984 to 1987, he served as executive director and general counsel of Americans United for Life in Chicago. He is a member of both the Illinois and Pennsylvania Bars.

#### Frederick D. Hess

Frederick D. Hess was appointed as a Board Member in September 2001. He received his B.A. in 1958 from Columbia College and his Juris Doctorate from Brooklyn Law School in 1967. Prior to his appointment to the Board, Mr. Hess served as Director, Office of Enforcement Operations, in the Criminal Division at the Department of Justice, from June 1982 until September 2001. From 1979 to 1982, he served as Associate Director and Acting Director, Office of Legal Support Services. Mr. Hess began his career with the Department of Justice as an attorney in 1967 through the Attorney General's Honor Program. From 1967 to 1979, he served as an attorney and deputy chief, Legislation and Special Projects Section. Mr. Hess is the recipient of the John Marshall Award in 1976, the Mary C. Lawton Lifetime Service Award in 1997, and numerous special commendations and special achievement awards. He a member of the New York and District of Columbia Bars.

### Gerald S. Hurwitz

Gerald S. Hurwitz has been a Board Member since June 1995. He has been with the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) since its creation in 1983. He received his undergraduate degree in 1971 from Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and his Juris Doctorate in 1974 from Temple University School of Law. Mr. Hurwitz joined the Department of Justice in 1974 as a naturalization examiner and later became a trial attorney with former Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) in Chicago, Illinois. In November 1979, he transferred to the INS office in Falls Church, Virginia, as associate general counsel for appellate litigation until January 1983. He served as counsel to the Chief Immigration Judge until December 1984 when he was appointed counsel to the Director, EOIR. He is a member of both the Pennsylvania and District of Columbia Bars.

#### Neil P. Miller

Neil P. Miller was appointed to the Board of Immigration Appeals in July 1999. Prior to this appointment, he served as the chief attorney examiner for the Board beginning in October 1995. Mr. Miller received a B.A. in 1967, and a Juris Doctorate in 1974, both from the University of Arizona. He served as a deputy chief attorney examiner with the Board from 1987 until he was appointed by the Attorney General to serve as chief attorney examiner in October 1995. He also served as a Board attorney-advisor from 1980 to 1987. Prior to that, Mr. Miller was in private practice in Tucson, Arizona, and worked with the Foreign Operations Section of the Passport Office, Department of State. He is a member of the Arizona State Bar.

## Anthony C. Moscato

Anthony C. Moscato was appointed as a Board Member in January 1999. Prior to his appointment, Mr. Moscato served as Director of the Executive Office for Immigration Review from May 1994 to January 1999. He received his B.A. in 1967 from Columbia University, and his Juris Doctorate in 1970 from the National Law Center of the George Washington University. Mr. Moscato previously served in the Justice Department as the Director of the Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys, the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Administration, and the acting Inspector General. Mr. Moscato joined the Justice Department in 1974 and became a trial attorney in the Tax Division 2 years later. He later served as director of three Department management staffs in the Justice Management Division: the Finance Staff, the Evaluation Staff, and the Property Management and Procurement Staff. Mr. Moscato received the Presidential Meritorious Executive Rank Award in 1991 and 1997, the Edmund Randolph Award in 1993, the Attorney General's Medallion in 1990, and the Attorney General's Award for Distinguished Service in 1988. He is a member of the District of Columbia Bar.

## Juan P. Osuna

Juan P. Osuna was appointed as a Board Member in August 2000. After receiving his B.A. in 1985 from George Washington University, Mr Osuna attended the Washington College of Law at The American University, where he earned his Juris Doctorate in 1988. In 1989, he also received an M.A. in law and international affairs from the University's School of International Service. Before his appointment to the Board, Mr. Osuna served as senior principal attorney editor at West Group, a prominent publisher of legal materials in the United States, until the end of 1999. As part of his duties at West, Mr. Osuna was responsible for all editorial, management, and publication aspects of periodicals, books, and electronic products reporting on immigration and nationality law, including the weekly *Interpreter Releases* and the monthly *Immigration Briefings*. He also was responsible for site management of West Group's editorial operations in Washington, DC. Since 1997, Mr. Osuna has also served as a consultant for Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc., in Washington, DC, where he has edited a number of publications. Previously, he taught law at the Federal Judicial Center's Division of Court Education, in Washington, DC, and at The American University, where he was an adjunct professor in the University's Washington Semester Program. Mr. Osuna has also worked at the Association of Trial Lawyers of America and at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, both in Washington, DC. He is a member of the Pennsylvania Bar.

# **Roger Pauley**

Roger Pauley was appointed as a Board Member in September 2001. He received a B.A. from Harvard College in 1962, and a Juris Doctorate from Harvard Law School in 1964. Prior to his appointment to the Board, from January 1980 to September 2001, Mr. Pauley served as Director, Legislation, Office of Policy and Legislation, in the Criminal Division at the Department of Justice. From 1975 to January 1980, he worked in the Criminal Division at the Department in a variety of positions. Mr. Pauley served on the staff of the Judiciary Committee in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1973 to 1974. He served in the appellate section of the Criminal Division in the Department of Justice from 1966 to 1973. He is a member of the New York and District of Columbia Bars and is admitted to practice in the U.S. Supreme Court.